

our country must deal with the entire range of terrorist threats before us; and

Whereas, The ongoing preparations for a military action to deal with threats from Iraq and its weapons of mass destruction are a direct and necessary response for the United States and our allies. As the world learns more about the links between the reign of hatred of Saddam Hussein and international terrorist organizations, including those affiliated with Osama bin Laden, the gravity of the world's situation has become increasingly clear. The smokescreen of misinformation that has hampered United Nations efforts in Iraq must not be permitted to jeopardize the homeland security of our nation or the stability of other parts of the world; and

Whereas, A number of Michigan citizen soldiers are engaged in the noble effort to defend our liberties. In addition to those already serving in the military, several reserve units have been called into duty. It is important to voice our support for all of them, as their courage and steadfastness in the face of war represents the highest standard of citizenship. For the families with loved ones in the military, the world's tensions take on much more intensity. Once again, we are reminded that the true cost of freedom is clearly beyond measure; and

Whereas, Unity in the face of adversity is essential for success in any grave battle. The people of this state, well aware of the high stakes of any military action, stand behind our President in his work to protect peace in our troubled world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we express support for the President's strategy for protecting the security of the United States through our efforts in Iraq and to express support for the men and women of our military and their families; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 880. An original bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to reauthorize the Act, to improve early learning opportunities and promote school preparedness, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 108-37).

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment with a preamble:

S. Res. 117. An original resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Laborers' International Union of North America, and congratulating members and officers of the Laborers' International Union of North America for the union's many achievements.

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 538. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to assist family caregivers in accessing affordable and high-quality respite care, and for other purposes.

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 703. A bill to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Ne-

braska, as the "Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building".

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER for the Committee on Armed Services.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. H. Steven Blum.

By Mr. LUGAR for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Dennis L. Schornack, of Michigan, to be Commissioner on the part of the United States on the International Joint Commission, United States and Canada.

Joseph LeBaron, of Oregon, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Reno L. Harnish, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Heather M. Hodges, of Ohio, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Moldova.

Gregory W. Engle, of Colorado, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Togolese Republic.

Eric S. Edelman, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Turkey.

Jay T. Snyder, of New York, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Harold C. Pachios, of Maine, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Elizabeth F. Bagley, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Marie Sophia Aguirre, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Marie Sophia Aguirre, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Charles William Evers III, of Florida, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Charles William Evers III, of Florida, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Wayne E. Neill, of Nevada, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Benin.

Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Ex-

traordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Lithuania.

Ralph Frank, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Croatia.

William M. Bellamy, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kenya.

Helen R. Meagher La Lime, of Florida, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Mozambique.

Pamela J. H. Slutz, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Mongolia.

Stephen M. Young, of New Hampshire, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kyrgyz Republic.

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Cecilia M. Altonaga, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

Susan G. Braden, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Charles F. Lettow, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

By Mr. SPECTER for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*John W. Nicholson, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Memorial Affairs.

*Bruce E. Kasold, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term prescribed by law.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED

On request by Mr. MCCONNELL and by unanimous consent, it was ordered, That the following nominations be discharged from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Karen Johnson, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Barry C. Barish, of California, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008.

Delores M. Etter, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008.

Daniel E. Hastings, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Science Board, National Science Foundation, for a term expiring May 10, 2008.

Douglas D. Randall, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Science Board,